INTERCHURCH WORLD MOVEMENT OF NORTH AMERICA

WORLD SURVEY CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC CITY
JANUARY 7 to 10, 1920

PRELIMINARY

Statement and Budget for Latin-America

PREPARED BY

SURVEY DEPARTMENT—FOREIGN DIVISION

PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
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THIS Survey statement should be read in the light of the fact that it is preliminary only, and will be revised and enlarged as a result of the discussions and recommendations of the World Survey Conference.

The entire Survey as revised will early be brought together in two volumes, American and Foreign, to form the basis of the financial campaign to follow.

The "Statistical Mirror" will make a third volume dealing with general church, missionary and stewardship data.

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LATIN AMERICA

The Land of Boundless Opportunity

THE population of the entire world—1,600,000,000—could live within the area of Latin America without being unduly crowded.

Latin America has the largest stretch of undeveloped fertile land in the world.

The twentieth century's most wonderful advance is predicted for Latin America.

The entire group of the twenty Latin American republics spends for education of all kinds, only as much as New York City annually spends on her schools.

More letters are mailed every day in New York City between the hours of 5 and 7 p. m., than are written in Haiti in a whole year.

Latin America is almost as illiterate as India, but welcomes education, and longs for good literature.

The city of Brooklyn alone has as many churches as are to be found in the whole of Argentina—Protestant and Roman Catholic combined.

In Colombia there is one doctor to every six thousand people. In the United States there is one to every five hundred.

Latin American *Intellectuales* are known the world over for their brilliancy. But they have largely abandoned the old unscientific faith and know nothing of the appeal of modern Christianity.

LATIN AMERICA

THE world's attention is rapidly shifting to Latin America. Food production, room for over-crowded populations and a market for surplus goods and capital, command universal interest. Beginning at the Rio Grande and extending down through Mexico, Central America, across Panama, over Colombia, Brazil, Peru and Chile, and the abounding plains of the Argentine to the Straits of Magellan, is the largest stretch of undeveloped fertile land in the entire world. All the population of the world could find place here and be only one-third as crowded as is Porto Rico.

Capitalists, manufacturers, steamship directors, food economists and political leaders in Europe, North America and even Japan are, therefore, intently fixing their attention on these fallow lands.

Just as the most remarkable developments of the nineteenth century took place in North America, so the most wonderful growth of the twentieth century will take place in Latin America.

Latin America is composed of Porto Rico and the twenty republics south of the Rio Grande: Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Panama in Central America; Cuba, Haiti and Santo Domingo in the West Indies*; Venezuela, Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Ecuador and Colombia in South America.

These combined countries have an area of 8,321,081 square miles and a population of 85,000,000, roughly divided as follows: whites, 18,000,000; Indians, 20,000,000; Negroes, 6,000,000; mixed white and Indian, 32,000,000; mixed white and Negro, 8,000,000; mixed Negro and Indian, 700,000; others, 300,000.

Eighteen of the twenty republics of Latin America speak Spanish; Brazil speaks Portuguese; Haiti speaks French. About 15,000,000 Indians can be reached only through their own tribal languages.

The World War has made Latin Americans begin a new search after God, compelling them to re-examine their materialistic theories, supposedly beyond attack. Coupled with this new yearning for spiritual life is a desire for closer friendship with the United States, whose idealism displayed in the World War has dissipated old prejudices and brought a flood of warm sentiment for all-American solidarity. "If America does not save the world, it will not be saved," recently said a Buenos Aires professor.

* The West Indies, including Porto Rico, are treated in the Home Missions Survey.

NO MIDDLE CLASS

THE peoples of Latin America fall naturally into the following groups: The governing class, representing less than 10 per cent. of the population; the peons, practically all illiterate, 60 per cent.; the pure-blood Indians, speaking only their tribal languages, 20 per cent.; leaving about 10 per cent. as a very generous estimate for the small, slowly developing middle class. It is only recently that Latin America has had a middle class, her people having been divided between the extremely rich and the extremely poor.

SIX PRINCIPAL NEEDS

THE fundamental needs of the people of Latin America are as follows:

1. A New Faith. God must be recognized in every life as a present help, not simply a future judge; and Jesus Christ as the inspiration for the solution of present pressing problems alike for individual and nation.

2. Education. Illiteracy is the great fundamental problem, ranging from 40 per cent. to 50 per cent. in Uruguay and Argentina to 85 per cent. to 95 per cent. in Venezuela and Santo Domingo. New York City's present budget for education equals the national budgets for education of all the twenty republics of Latin America in the year 1914. There are more letters dropped into the mail boxes of New York City, between 5 and 7 p. m. every day than are mailed in all of Haiti in an entire year.

3. Economic Reform. Unrest has recently swept down through Latin America and great strikes have taken place in practically every one of these countries. Some thousand strikers were killed in a single demonstration in the city of Sao Paulo. The social upheaval in Mexico is destined to be re-enacted in Chile and other Latin American countries if the problems of labor are left unsolved.

The Christian church alone has the unselfishness and power to solve them.

4. Good Literature. The dominant literature of Latin America is atheistic and often immoral. While there are great classics, there is practically no popular literature to help in the development of character. Scarcely a hundred evangelical books of all kinds exist in Spanish and both the young evangelical church and the great public cry out for character-building books and periodicals.

5. Justice to the Indian. This is one of the most pressing of all the needs in Latin America. Anyone who helps toward its attainment and toward the solution of all the problems involved will be most cordially welcomed by the several state governments.

The Christian church dare not longer ignore the needs of these first Americans.

6. Modern Medicine and Sanitation. The rich command the services of able modern physicians but the poor, both in cities and country districts, are pitiable victims of curable diseases and are ignorant of modern sanitation. Valparaiso has an infantile death rate of 75 per cent. to 80 per cent.; whole states are without a resident physician; the country districts are almost entirely destitute; while trained nurses and public clinics are unknown except in a few large cities.

PRESENT WORK INADEQUATE

IF ONE visits only the capitals and port-cities of Latin America he will be impressed with the smallness of the evangelical work done there, but when he visits the smaller cities and towns he will be appalled by the utter lack of it.

In Mexico there are states with as many as a million population where no foreign missionary works. There are only two hundred ordained ministers, both foreign and native, to preach the gospel to fifteen million people. Seventy-five thousand souls are thus dependent on each ordained minister. A representative of the Guggenheim interests said that before the revolution practically a million Mexicans—one out of every fifteen of the population—were dependent on that and allied corporations. To help Mexico teach the 80 per cent. of illiterates in her population, there are altogether 177 mission schools. American capitalists have invested a billion dollars in Mexico. For missionary purposes we have invested a little more than one five-hundredth part of that amount.

NOT A SINGLE MISSIONARY HERE!

IN THE northern half of Peru, a stretch of territory larger than our own thirteen original states, there is not one evangelical missionary. There are ten provinces in this historic republic, each larger than Holland, where there is no evangelical work. In Bolivia the evangelical church has scarcely one hundred members.

Great areas in Chile and Argentina are still untouched by evangelical missionaries, and only the fringes along the ocean and river fronts of Uruguay and Brazil are occupied.

One missionary couple has recently been sent to Paraguay as the first step toward facing the great problem that country presents.

MOST NEGLECTED SPOT IN THE WORLD

THE greatest stretch of unevangelized territory in the world lies in the center of South America, including the interior of Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia and Paraguay. An irregular territory some two thousand miles long and from five hundred to fifteen hundred miles in width, would only include two or three missionaries. In northern Brazil there are seven states, with populations ranging from that of Maine to that of New Jersey, with no foreign missionary.

In spite of the awful needs, as great in the interior of South America as in China or Africa, American mission boards do not support one hospital in all the continent.

TEN CHURCHES FOR FIVE REPUBLICS

IN THE five republics of Central America there are only ten evangelical church buildings. Our missions support only four schools and one hospital in all of Central America.

In little Panama, which owes its very existence to the United States, there is only one missionary preaching the simple gospel of Jesus Christ to 350,000 Spanish-speaking Panamanians. There are eight ordained missionaries in Venezuela, trying to serve a population of nearly three million. To educate the 85 per cent. of her population who cannot read and write there are two little primary schools with a small enrolment. In the whole history of this republic only one building has ever been erected for school purposes either by church or state, and that was a military academy. In Colombia, which is larger than Germany, France, Spain and Italy together, there are only two ordained evangelical ministers to every million of the population. In Ecuador there is practically no established mission work, and no evangelical church building has ever been erected in that country.

ON THE OTHER HAND—

THE mission work already established has been so successful that Brazil has asked the missionaries to take charge of two of its large industrial schools; Paraguay offers to turn over its agricultural school; Bolivia has heavily subsidized missionary education; and Mexico has placed Protestants in most prominent positions both in education and administration. In every southern republic missionaries are honored and both officials and people are demanding a great and immediate enlargement of their services. The presidents of at least five countries, Mexico, Guatemala, Argentina, Bolivia and Ecuador have asked that Protestant mission work be carried on in their countries. Practically every mission school in Latin America is overcrowded and could be filled immediately to twice its present capacity.

A UNITED PROGRAM

THE missionary forces in Latin America are united and ready for a great advance. For five years the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America, acting as a board of strategy for thirty missionary societies, has been minutely studying its field, working out for the boards a better distribution of territorial responsibility, a cooperative plan for the training of national leaders, the production of Christian literature, and the reaching of the last man with the gospel message. A common language, common religious inheritances, a common form of government and common problems and ideals give an opportunity absolutely unique in the world's missionary history to develop a united program for a continent-and-a-half.

UNION EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

THERE ought to be established or enlarged as a result of the Interchurch World Movement the following:
Theological seminaries in Mexico, Porto Rico, Chile, Uruguay and Brazil. Union colleges, with departments for training Christian workers: in Mexico, Porto Rico, Panama, Argentina and Chile. Union normal schools in Chile, Cuba and Costa Rica. Union agricultural schools in Mexico, Brazil and Cuba. Union universities in Mexico and Brazil.

LITERATURE

THE need is urgent for the establishment of union book-stores in every capital in Latin America; employment of colporters for country districts; and the organization of central boards of publication with sufficient capital to publish for the rising church in these fields; and for books on the spiritual life, character building; also children's books and periodicals for church leaders, families and the intellectual classes.

UNION EVANGELISTIC PROGRAM

NATIONAL evangelists and North American leaders are in great demand to give addresses in theatres, halls and educational institutions, as well as to hold evangelistic meetings in churches all through Latin America, taking advantage of the ripeness of the field, everywhere in evidence, for a great ingathering to the churches.

The good influence of the Congress of Panama and the subsequent regional conferences is still bearing fruit. A better understanding exists between the various evangelical missions. There is less competition and more cooperation according to definite and mutually acceptable plans.

UNION SUMMER CONFERENCE CENTERS

SEVERAL "Northfields" should be established throughout Latin America where conferences can be held, where missionaries may have contact with each other, and where intensive training can be given to numbers of national workers who must now be quickly prepared to carry out the large advance program planned by the churches.

COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM FOR INDIANS

THE program for the Indians includes ten great central industrial schools and farms, and fifteen centers from which an evangelist, physician and nurse will work out into the interior.

SOCIAL CENTERS

THE establishment of several social centers is called for in several of the larger cities while the introduction of some form of social service in connection with each church that has its own building is necessary.

The Y. M. C. A. has got a firm foothold in Latin America. It is doing splendid work which is being cordially received. Buenos Aires is a strong center. Montevideo (Uruguay) has just erected a $100,000 plant. Loud and insistent calls for the opening of Y. M. C. A.'s are coming in from the larger cities elsewhere in Latin America.

ENLARGEMENT OF ALL WORK

CAREFUL plans and estimates have been made for all departments of the work of each board and these will fit into the great whole, with the one objective that the last man in Latin America, from *Intellectual* to Indian, shall know Christ.

OPPORTUNITY

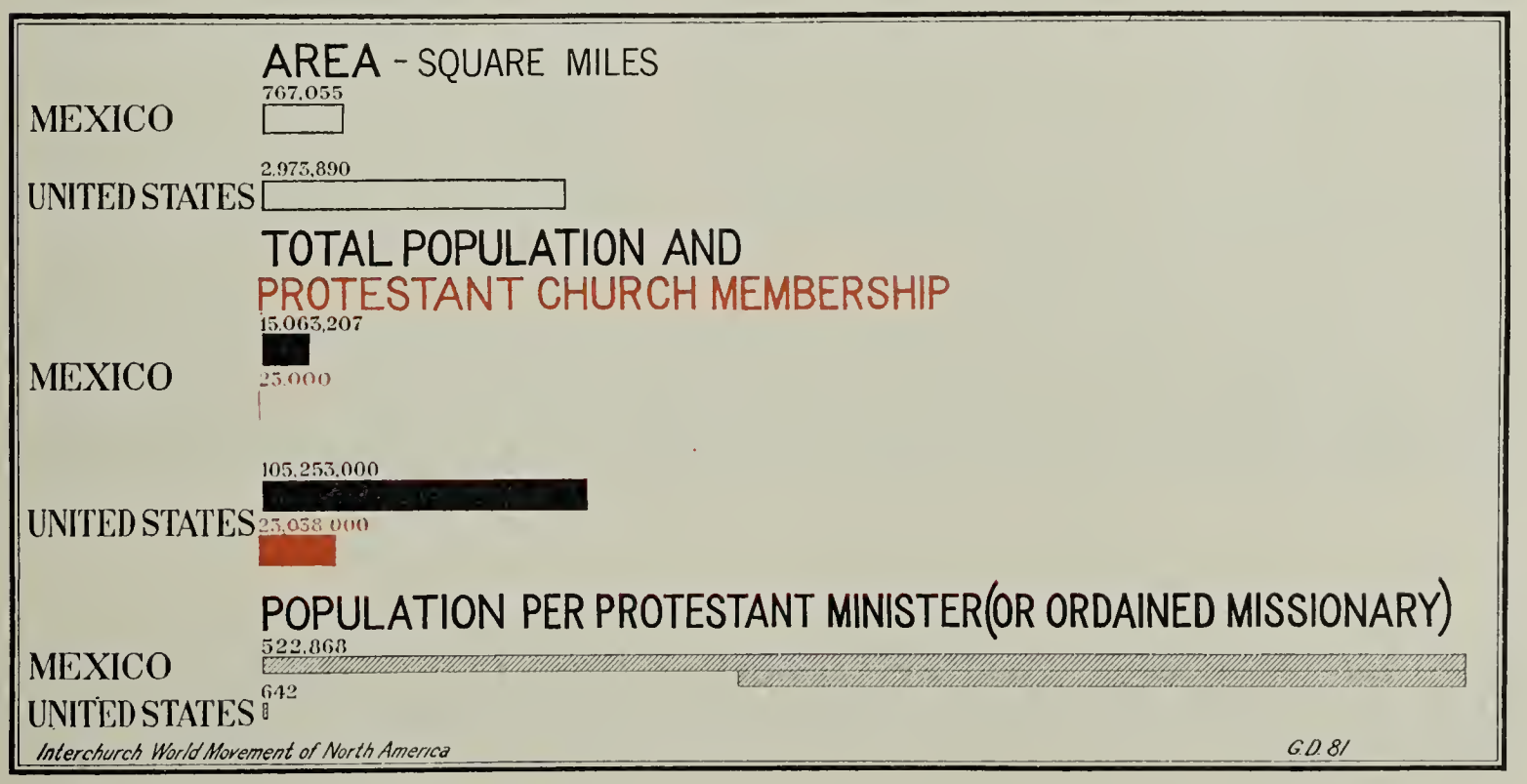
THIS is the best descriptive word for Latin America. A new industrial era; a new open-mindedness and seeking after God; a dispelling of old suspicions and a desire for new friendship with the United States—these are the all-inclusive conditions which assure victory for the carefully planned Christian program in Latin America.

Mexico

WITH its 785,881 square miles of territory, Mexico is almost as large as the United States east of the Mississippi, and equal in size to Germany, France, Great Britain, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland and Cuba put together. It leads the world in silver, chicle and henequen, and is second in petroleum, copper, onyx, antimony and dye-woods. Other leading staples are corn, beans, coffee, peppers, cotton, sugar, cocoa, vanilla, lead, zinc, gold, rubber, cattle, hides. It produced sixty-four million barrels of petroleum in 1918; in 1919, it will produce eighty million.

The problem of the churches is to counteract the ill effects of an inadequate religion, reduce illiteracy, train leaders, promote sanitation and healing, aid in forming a middle class, bear comfort and redemption to hungry souls, train the Indians, lift up the peons.

The United States has been distracted for several years with the Mexican question. That distraction will continue until it is realized that it is not the question of stopping a fight but the matter of solving a problem. Mexico is endeavoring to change from sixteenth century to twentieth century conditions. It is not the case of a revolution to be suppressed but of an evolution to be guided. It is the problem of slowly changing a nation into the image of God—a God whose very name is unknown to one-fifth of the population and whose Book can not be read by four-fifths.



MAP showing the missionary occupation of Latin America. The red sections reveal the fact that there is still a great task before the Christian forces of North America.

THE SOUL OF MEXICO UNAWAKENED

THE Mexican people are not to blame for the chaotic condition of their country. No nation under the sun has ever developed a real democracy without having had preached and wrought into its life the principles of the Sermon on the Mount. No permanent settlement of the Mexican problem can be expected until Mexico's people have been imbued with the teachings of Jesus. One thing is perfectly clear: there would be no Mexican problem today if the United States and other Christian countries had displayed the same interest in the development of Mexico's soul that they have in the exploitation of her natural resources.

THE BEST AMBASSADORS

A NATIVE of Latin America in a recent address in Boston expressed the following conviction as to the great need of Mexico: "The day on which you gentlemen of the United States will send into Mexico the Bible and missionaries instead of soldiers; when you will send school teachers instead of armies, and transports filled with foodstuffs instead of rifles; that day you will do a great service to humanity, to Mexico and to yourselves."

Despite the almost constant unrest the progress of evangelistic work continues. The native pastors have been faithful and tactful. Great crowds have attended the preaching services and at a recent revival in Mexico City it is reported that one thousand persons professed conversion.

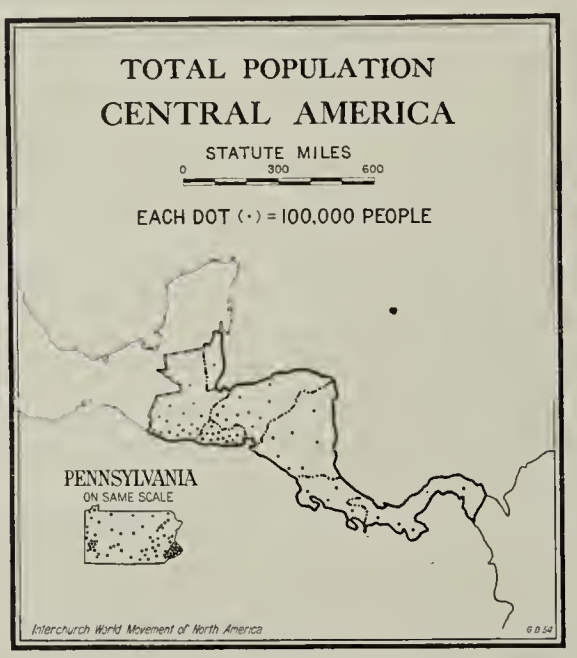
PLANS TO REACH IT

THE evangelical churches are the only organizations which have worked out a definite program commensurate with the task of solving the Mexican question. It represents fifty years of experience and five years of scientific united study. A representative conference of Christian workers was held in Mexico City, February 17-21, 1919, to inaugurate what is probably the most inclusive cooperative program ever outlined by Christian forces for any nation—a program unanimously endorsed by all the Mexican leaders and by all the missionaries and board representatives present. President Carranza, in special audience, gave assurance of the government's approval. Many well-known Mexican leaders of the educational, political and commercial world endorsed it enthusiastically. Among the outstanding phases of the program are:

1. An entire redistribution of territorial responsibility to make the forces most effective and efficient. (This is now accomplished.)
2. A university in Mexico City.
3. A hospital in Mexico City.
4. Eight agricultural schools in as many different sections of the republic.
5. A community center or institutional church and a school of mechanical arts in each center above 15,000 inhabitants.
6. Normal schools in such districts as do not yet possess them and the strengthening of those already existing.
7. The development of the union theological seminary already existing in Mexico City.
8. A union training school for women.
9. Increased equipment for the union printing plant, book-store and paper just established.
10. A secretary for general cooperative work, such as temperance, Sunday schools and young people's societies.
11. A secretary for evangelical education, and an agricultural expert to co-ordinate all work in this realm.

MEXICO is endeavoring to change from sixteenth to twentieth century conditions. The Mexican question is not that of merely stopping a fight but of solving a problem. It is not the case of a revolution to be suppressed but of an evolution to be guided.

(Comparison maps)



These maps belong to a series all drawn to the same scale for purposes of comparison as to area and population. The map of Pennsylvania serves as a unit of comparison and appears same size on each map of the series.

Central America

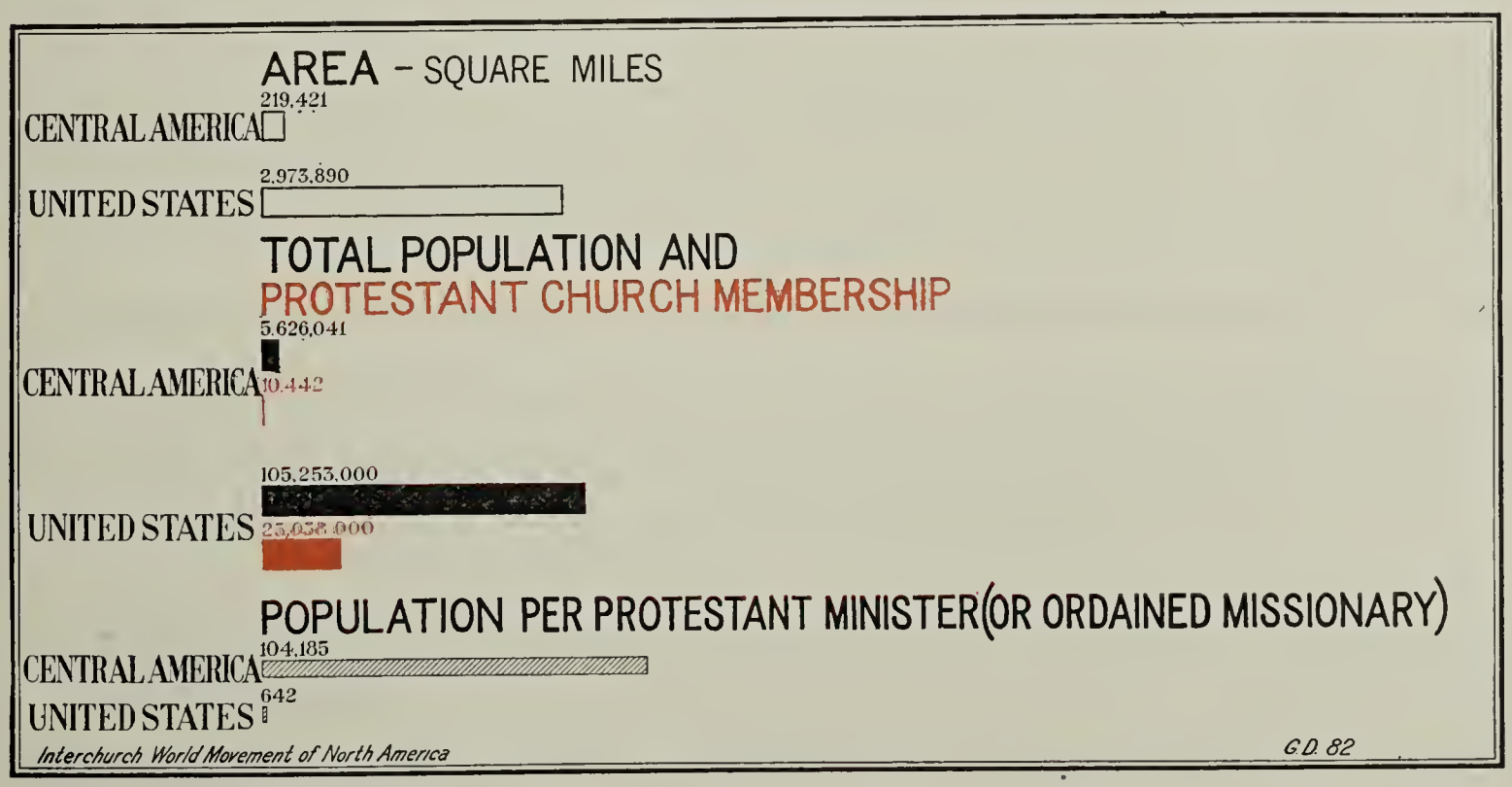
Rich in resources, densely populated, capable of magnificent development, almost forgotten by the Christian church, Central America is one of the most neglected mission fields of the entire world.

PANAMA and the five republics of Costa Rica, Nicaragua, San Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, although in close proximity to the United States and lying along one of the greatest trade routes on earth, rich in natural resources, republican in government and densely populated by a people capable of magnificent development, form one of the most neglected mission fields in the entire world.

The five and one-half million people of these republics are steeped in ignorance. Nowhere has the repressive influence of the Roman Catholic Church upon popular education made itself felt more than in Central America, and in many cities the lottery is the agency of the church for raising funds for its charities.

In the interior, there are numerous tribes of Indians living in savagery and paganism—about a million in Guatemala alone. No effort is being made to civilize and Christianize them, except by a small force of Moravian missionaries working in eastern Nicaragua.

A system of standardized and affiliated mission schools would constitute the natural feeders for institutions of higher learning, and particularly for the international college proposed for Panama.



MISSIONARY OCCUPATION

IT IS only recently that missionaries backed by organized boards have entered most of these republics, previous efforts being confined to small and sporadic undertakings incapable of permanent results and making little real contribution to the uplift of the people.

Missions have just been established, one station each in Costa Rica by the Methodists and in Nicaragua by the Baptists. In Guatemala, the Presbyterians have established a strong mission with a school, hospital and press, in the capital. Much of the mission property in the latter country was destroyed by the disastrous earthquake of 1917, but is being rebuilt. The Baptists are working in San Salvador. The Friends and some independent bodies support evangelistic work. In Panama, Methodists, Baptists, Episcopalians and others have work, practically none of this extending into the district outside the American Canal Zone. The Methodists are responsible for work among the natives and have just sent their first missionaries into the interior proper.

STRATEGIC CENTERS

THE twin cities of Panama and Colon are at present befouling with vice the great stream of the world's traffic that flows through their gateways. The canal brings traders, tourists, soldiers and sailors of all nations to their doors. They are adjacent to what will always be the most heavily garrisoned military post of the United States. Our responsibility for them is absolute.

In the other republics are cities of from forty thousand to ninety thousand people where good schools, clean homes and streets, adequate hospitals and a Christian public conscience are unknown.

THE NEED

EXPERTS agree that the only solution lies in the development of a vital Christianity, and a real educational system under competent native leadership. There are no missionary normal schools in the whole territory, and no institutions whatever for the training of Christian leaders.

In order to bring the missionary enterprise in the five Central American republics (exclusive of Panama) up to the required standard, there are needed for education, 29 elementary, 11 secondary and 5 specialized schools; for medical work, 5 hospitals, 6 dispensaries; and for evangelism, 30 church buildings with adequate equipment.

To carry on this enlarged work effectively, there are needed an adequate number of missionaries and native workers of each type.

PANAMA A STRATEGIC CENTER

FOR Panama, plans call for a union college with a department for training Christian leaders for the eight neighboring republics, in none of which is there a theological seminary; industrial and normal departments with kindergarten and primary school; a central distributing depot for literature; a hospital; institutional churches in Panama and Colon; evangelistic work extended to fifteen interior towns; thirteen foreign and twenty-five native workers.

CHRISTIAN patriotism is loyal to its own nation because it believes in its own nation as an essential element in the well-being of all nations; and the Christian patriot does not seek to advance his own nation at the cost of others, but to make his own nation an ever more perfect agency in securing the good of all nations. . . . Foreign missions are the true internationalism, for they are the effort to share with all men the best God has given to us.

—*Alfred Gandier.*

Colombia

This nation has almost everything material in lavish abundance. Notwithstanding this, want and suffering are the average lot.

COLOMBIA is the South American Persia without Persia's excuse. It is a rich and fertile country. There is scarcely anything that it cannot produce, from the fruits of the tropics to the grains of the temperate zones. The area is 461,606 square miles, or three times the size of California. The population is 5,500,000.

It has thousands of square miles of low-lying forests and pastures, capable of raising cattle for the Central American and West Indian markets, and bananas for the United States. It has thousands of square miles of valleys and plateaux thousands of feet above sea level, where there is perpetual spring-time.

No country can produce better coffee and cocoa. It has the richest emerald mines in the world. Asphalt, rubber, salt, coal, iron, gold and all that is necessary for the industrial independence of the country and for a large export trade are found in abundance. The whole country could be made a garden.

And yet this rich country is one of the most backward and decrepit nations on the planet. She has a few little railroads, the largest of them only ninety-three miles long, and all of these were built and many are owned by foreigners. She has only three or four highways.

In spite of the prevailing good nature of the people there is a great deal of want and suffering among them. In some sections goitre seems to be almost universal, and a great lack of provision for medical care is to be found here as in other South American lands. The Bogota Hospital, when visited, was crowded so full with its thousand patients, that some of them were laid on mattresses on the floor.

The Presbyterian Board (North) has been working in Colombia since 1865. At the present time there are only thirteen missionaries altogether on the field including six men, or one ordained man for every million of the population.

The program for Colombia includes 45 chapels, 46 schools, 9 hospitals, 13 dispensaries, 4 social centers and 1 business agency, with a sufficient number of missionary and native workers adequately to man this needy field.

(Comparison map)

This map is one of a series all drawn to the same scale for purposes of comparison as to area and population. The map of Pennsylvania serves as a unit of comparison and appears same size on each map of the series.

Venezuela

Situated very near the United States, which intervened twice on her behalf against European aggressions. Why should not the church intervene now on behalf of her religious health and safety?

HERE is another field where the work done is on so small a scale that little or no progress can be made. Four ordained missionaries are trying to bring the gospel to a population of about three millions of people. Eighty-five per cent. of the population is illiterate.

Venezuela has an area of 600,000 square miles, a region three times larger than the British Isles, over which is distributed a population one-half that of London. The riches of the world lie under the feet of the people, yet great poverty exists among the majority, degrading and almost dehumanizing in its effect. Although lying very near our frontiers, it has probably received less stimulus from our own Christian civilization than any other Latin American country.

Eighty-five per cent. of the people are illiterate and for every thousand inhabitants only sixteen are in a school of any kind. Moreover, in all the history of the country there has never been a building erected expressly for school purposes, save the military academy. All other schools, few and deficient, are transiently sheltered.

Notwithstanding the illiteracy and the enervating tropical climate, the people have good mental endowment and are constantly producing works of art, of history, and of physical, medical and engineering science.

Throughout the republic, the well-to-do classes have the attention of the Roman Catholic Church, the poor have no gospel of any kind preached to them.

Besides the work of the Bible societies, the Scandinavian Alliance Mission supports a station at Maracaibo, and there is a Presbyterian station with two ordained men and their wives at Caracas. These, with three small independent groups with precarious basal support, represent the sum total of present effort.

Infant mortality is very high, and there are absolutely no nurses in the country.

Colporteurs often find people who have never seen a Bible and know nothing of its contents. Despite constant opposition, the sale of Bibles has steadily increased.

A program for five years calls for 11 churches, 12 schools, 3 clinics, 2 social centers and a corresponding increase in the number of foreign and national workers.

Paraguay

Like New England in size, but with no sea coast, it is called the "Island Republic." There are only three missionaries at work among its people.

IN COLONIAL days Paraguay was the seat of great Jesuit missions or "reductions" where the Indians lived on immense plantations under the paternalistic rule of the priests. These were disestablished in the eighteenth century by royal decree and only fragmentary ruins now mark the remains of these outposts of an ambitiously projected theocratic empire.

No nation of modern times, unless it be Armenia or Serbia, has been so decimated by war as was Paraguay in her long conflict with Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay. For years she was able to defy these three powerful neighbors, but finally their armies overran the country, spreading death and desolation.

From a former population of a million and a quarter, Paraguay was left in 1870 with only 300,000, of whom but 10,000 were men. Recovery from the awful effects of the war has been rapid, but Paraguay is still a country where women do much of the heavy work, and where social conditions among the lower classes are abnormal, due to this unbalancing of sex proportion. "The Pain of Paraguay" is the apt characterization, in a recent book, of its sad life.

Although Paraguay is often called the "Barefoot Republic," the land is poor only because of its lack of development. In climate and soil it is one of the most favored nations. Already great American packing firms have established plants to utilize the product of the Paraguayan cattle ranches.

It is said that every year enough oranges rot on the ground in Paraguay to pay the national debt if they could be marketed.

Paraguay's leaders are anxious for the development of their land and people, but are fearfully hampered by the national poverty, the general ignorance and the isolation of the country from world centers of culture and of commerce. These leaders are eagerly welcoming the coming of Protestant educators with the program as outlined. The government has suggested that the missionaries take over its agricultural school, and officials promise to send their children to the proposed school in Asuncion.

Even the Catholic Church in Paraguay seems impotent. There are less than seventy-five priests for the whole population and little is being done for education. The government's annual appropriation for school work is only $250,000 gold.

Asuncion, the capital, is more than four days' journey by river steamer from Buenos Aires, and is the center of such culture and social life as Paraguay affords.

Across the Parana River lies the Gran Chaco, a tropical wilderness inhabited by wild Indians untouched by civilization except in the few centers where missionaries of the South American Missionary Society (Anglican) have been able to penetrate, and are doing the most notable work among South American Indians. The Salvation Army and a small independent mission have done some pioneer work in Asuncion and in one or two other cities.

The responsibility for the evangelizing of Paraguay has been assumed by the Disciples of Christ, who have just sent their first missionaries to the capital. They have just purchased for $35,000 a two-acre site near the heart of the city for their proposed school and institutional work.

The five year program calls for:

Two institutional church centers; eight churches and eight outstations;
Ten day schools; one high school; one agricultural school;
One hospital;
One orphanage and an industrial school;
To be manned by 14 foreigners and 32 nationals.

THE ACTIVE forces of social uplift ignore the church, but sociology is no adequate substitute for spirituality.
The church depends too much upon a pulpit ministry and too little upon a parish program.
Short pastorates are the rule in the cities. They do not make for constructive programs of sustained, progressive effort.

Chile

A virile nation, menaced by social vices and without any saving religion.

THIS republic, with its four million people and a coast line of nearly three thousand miles, is a strong, virile nation, free from revolution, with a touch of imperialism, living up to her national motto, "By Reason or by Force." She runs her own railroads and controls much of her industrial life. But 448,000 of her 786,000 children of school age are not in school.

The Chilean Catholic Church, in combination with the land-barons, is shamefully exploiting the people and doing little to teach them that morality and religion are directly related. The poorer classes live in the most promiscuous relationships, and among the well-to-do concubinage is common. Intemperance is rapidly eating out the vitals of the race, dishonesty prevails in commercial life, the laboring classes are sorely oppressed, while an appalling lack of a religion that might inspire unselfishness and spiritual longing is everywhere apparent.

The two principal mission boards in Chile are those of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian (North). They work in very close cooperation, publishing a union paper called, "El Heraldo Christiano" and supporting a union Bible school for training ministers. The Santiago College for Girls and the *Instituto Ingles* for boys have a dominating influence among the schools of the capital and are reputed to be the greatest force for righteousness in Chile.

The Southern Baptists and the Christian and Missionary Alliance have strong evangelistic work in the South. The Anglicans maintain an important educational and medical work among the Araucanian Indians. This work is recognized by the government, by giving them land. There are 100,000 Araucanian Indians who live in a state of semi-barbarism and generally have their own rites and religion. Present conditions must be changed if they are not to become an extinct race.

The program for Chile involves buildings for the union seminary, union normal school, a college, a bookstore, hospital and several new churches for the capital; the beginning of social service; the extension of evangelistic work into all unoccupied fields; a total of forty-three church buildings, twenty-four schools, two hospitals, two dispensaries and seven community centers—all properly staffed.

The influence of the evangelical work is already felt; one evidence of this being the large number of educational and other organizations designed to serve the people,

which have been formed upon the initiative of the Chileans themselves. One interesting movement is that among the students of the National University at Santiago, of which there are more than a thousand, who are collecting funds to provide a building in which students from outside the city can live. They are also organizing classes outside the university to help fellow-students meet the examination requirements. How best to get in contact with these various organizations and lead them along lines of Christian service is one of the important problems of the workers.

Valparaiso, a progressive city of 250,000 inhabitants, has especially felt the influence of evangelical work and of the foreign colonies, mostly English, which have strongly supported the various religious and philanthropic enterprises of the city. There are here well equipped Anglican and Union churches, a Y. M. C. A. and a Protestant orphanage. It is also the center of a parochial school system which maintains one large central branch with courses from primary up through the eighth grade and has seven other branches in different parts of the city.

So successful are these schools that there is a constant demand for their extension in other parts of the republic, owing to the fact that the Government has placed the educational emphasis on secondary schools leaving more than half the children of primary age without school privileges, and the superiority, both educational and moral, of the missionary primary schools over government schools is generally recognized.

While in the schools of Valparaiso and other centers of the republic there are some primary schools which reach the church's children, there is no way of taking them on to the higher grades where they can be trained directly into Christian workers or developed into intelligent Christian laymen. There is urgent necessity of establishing secondary schools to serve the Christian community.

Unbelief and pure materialism are the present masters of the Latin American mind. Religion, with its moral support, has been well nigh abandoned. As recently as 1913 the representative of the Vatican arriving at the capital of Chile was met by hundreds of men. Apparently he was receiving a popular demonstration. He was. They were students of the National University armed with bricks, resenting an interference in politics, and the sending of large sums of money to Rome. Special police had to be called out to get him safely to his residence.

In the beginning of evangelical work much opposition and persecution occurred. Now Protestantism is a well recognized force. The Chilean Church is full of evangelistic zeal and already much of the country feels Protestant influence. Missionaries are invited to serve with influential citizens in reform movements like temperance, and invited to teach in the National University.

Bolivia

A submerged but not a degenerate people, they welcome the missionary and the school teacher.

BOLIVIA is bigger than Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey-in-Europe combined; she is separated from her neighbors by tropical jungle, desert and mountain walls; within her borders are unsettled areas as large as Texas, and her two million people are crowded into fertile spots among the high Andes.

Fifty per cent. Indian, 25 per cent. mixed, they are descendants of Inca and pre-Inca civilized nations—submerged but not degenerate. Half the agricultural land is held as feudal estates, with Indian serfs bought and sold with the farms. The other half is held in common by aboriginal clans as before the conquest.

The Indians speak no Spanish, are not citizens, are totally uneducated, pagans at heart, with a thin varnish of mediaeval Catholicism.

The illiteracy of the republic is 85 per cent. The death rate is high, half the babies living less than two years.

Civilization is practically confined to cities. The annual allowance for education is one-tenth of whole fiscal income, but less than one million dollars, gold.

Mission work newly begun, is poorly equipped but welcomed by people and government. "Bring your schools and your pastors," they implore. "Our children need instruction; our Indians need a pure gospel."

The Methodist Episcopal and Canadian Baptists are the principal Boards, with the Bolivian Indian Mission and Seventh Day Adventists each maintaining a station among Indians. There are few countries in the world where evangelical Christianity has done less for the common people.

Two outstanding institutions of learning were established in La Paz and Cochabamba by Government invitation by the Methodist Episcopal Church and receive state aid.

These might be expanded to provide the greatly-needed and wholly lacking theological training for native leadership. A representative evangelical periodical is a necessity.

In five years what can be done? The answer is: Equip present work; open hospitals, schools for whites, industrial missions for Indians and new mission stations. Build churches in new centers, and build people's institutes in the largest cities.

Brazil

This great country is hospitable to evangelical missions but the church does not reciprocate by establishing them there.

THIS magnificent country is a continent in itself—an area larger than the United States. Her climate runs the gamut from the equatorial jungles of the Amazon Valley, to the temperate highlands of Rio Grande do Sul. Her products of rubber and coffee girdle the globe. Her mines are a treasure house.

The only Portuguese-speaking country in America, she long since outstripped her mother land in population, resources, military power and intellectual life. She is now where the United States was a half century ago, with the same amount of territory, the same population (25,000,000), the same vast, unconquered west, with her first trans-continental railway yet to be built and to be followed, doubtless, by the same remarkable developments.

Brazilians are seeking new light in religion and morals. The newspapers are opening their columns to the message of the evangelical churches. Rio and Sao Paulo papers publish without charge any announcements of religious meetings that may be sent to them. Recently an abstract of the international Sunday school lesson for the day has been appearing in the Sunday edition of one of the leading dailies.

Brazil leads all other Latin American countries in Protestantism. The first foreign missionaries ever sent out by Protestants went to Brazil. The second endeavor to found the Protestant church in Brazil was made by Holland, which occupied Pernambuco as a center, from 1624. The first Protestant church erected in South America was built in Rio de Janeiro in 1819.

Brazil is the only country in Latin America where the native evangelical church sustains a hospital, the building of which occupies beautiful grounds in the suburbs of Rio de Janeiro, and cost, with grounds, $100,000.

Brazil has a large number of self-supporting churches. In one district in the state of Rio de Janeiro, out of thirty Baptist congregations twenty-six are self-supporting. The Congregational churches have been practically self-supporting from the beginning. The Methodists have more self-supporting churches in Brazil than in all the rest of Latin America. The Independent Presbyterian Church, with over six thousand members, has never received any support from outside of the country. One church in Rio de Janeiro raises $15,000 a year, supports a missionary in Portugal, and conducts fourteen Sunday schools in the suburbs of its own city.

HIGH-GRADE COLLEGES

THE government recognizes the professional schools of Granbery College. The state legislature recognizes and supports in part the agricultural school at Lavras. In a recent military parade in Rio, student-companies from Mackenzie and Granbery colleges appeared in the review, on the same basis as the students from important government schools. The director of the missionary agricultural school is the close adviser of the government in agricultural and live stock questions.

UNOCCUPIED AREAS

OUTSIDE of the states of Sao Paulo, Minas Geraes, Rio de Janeiro, the Federal District and Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil cannot be said to be occupied in any adequate sense. The great interior states of Goyaz, Matto Grosso, Parana, Santa Catarina and Amazonas, have not a dozen missionaries all told. Northern Brazil is one of the most neglected fields on earth. North and west of the San Francisco River lies about two-thirds of Brazil, half the area of South America. There are only twenty-nine missionaries in this whole territory. There is one state with over a million people in which there is but a single native pastor.

Two-thirds of the region above mentioned is covered with virgin forests, through which wander native tribes which have never heard the name of Christ. The Amazon and its tributaries furnish ten thousand miles of navigable water by which to reach the eight millions of people who live in that territory. Of the missionaries found there, fifteen of the twenty-nine are located in the one city of Pernambuco. There is but one medical missionary and people come to see him from five different states.

AGASSIZ'S PREDICTION UNFULFILLED

IN THE state of Para, with more than a million people, the Amazonas, three times as large as Germany, and in the territory extending on through Peru to the Pacific Ocean, there is not a single evangelical school, and few schools of any kind. Yet this is the Amazon Valley that Agassiz, on his visit in 1868, predicted would be the center of the world's civilization. In Para, a modern city of 200,000 people, the average school attendance is four thousand. In the interior of the Amazon Valley there are practically no schools.

NATIONAL CHURCHES

THE present evangelical missionary work in Brazil was most fortunate in its beginnings. Dr. Kalley's pious Scotch physician, who had been greatly persecuted in the Madeira Islands where he first began to preach the gospel, came to Brazil and soon had a strong work established. He emphasized self-support and national leadership. The churches which he organized on congregational lines have developed other strong congregations.

Many directors of public institutions are either members of evangelical churches or were educated in church schools. There are several evangelical churches in Brazil with their own national organizations, conducted independently of any foreign control. There is a Brazilian Presbyterian Church with its own general assembly. There are also national bodies of the Congregationalists and Baptists.

The following communions, mentioned in the order of their coming to Brazil, are working in this field: Congregational, Presbyterian, U. S. A., Presbyterian U. S , Methodist Episcopal, South, Southern Baptist Convention, Episcopalian, and the Evangelical Union of South America.

AN ADEQUATE PROGRAM

AN ADEQUATE program of advance would include the enlargement of a Christian university federation by strengthening the schools of engineering, pharmacy, dentistry, and agriculture, already existing, and the founding of normal, law and medical schools; the enlargement of the present hospital and the building of three more hospitals, with nurses' training schools; a union publishing house; a secretary for Portuguese literature; a national anti-vice campaign; a high school and an industrial farm school in each Brazilian state; three centers for Indian work; the strengthening of the work of each mission; establishing stations in many new centers which will include an evangelist, a physician and a community worker.

Argentina

This is the melting-pot of Latin America. In it are being wrought out the same social and economic problems the United States is wrestling with.

ARGENTINA is a well-organized country yet it is only at the beginning of its development. It has 250,000,000 acres of tillable soil, of which only 50,000,000 are under cultivation. The whole is an extent of territory which, if as densely populated as Italy, would contain 360,000,000 people. Buenos Aires, the third greatest city and second port in America, has the finest newspaper building in the world, together with subways, motor cars, clubs and parks, that fairly take away the stranger's breath.

The population of Argentina is almost purely of European stock. About half of all the pure whites in Latin America live in Argentina and Uruguay. Argentina is doing for the European-Latin races what the United States has done for the European Anglo-Teutonic peoples. The melting-pot boils here, south of the equator, with as much fervor as it does in the United States, cooking the same dish of problems.

All visitors to Argentina are struck with the materialism of the people. "Here the people are so indifferent to all religions that they have no time to be hostile to any." Agnostic socialism is strong and the churches are weak. A recent government census reports twenty-eight Roman Catholic, and twelve Protestant churches in Buenos Aires with its 1,500,000 inhabitants. Brooklyn with the same population, has about six hundred churches. There is probably no other city in the world which has so few places of worship as Buenos Aires.

The government of Argentina has done more for education than has the government of any other Latin American country, but fifty per cent. of the population is illiterate. Even in Buenos Aires forty thousand children are out of school. Yet only two small mission schools have been established in that great capital and not a dozen in all the republic.

PROGRAM OF ADVANCE

A FIVE-YEAR program for Argentina includes new plans for the three existing mission boarding schools, and the establishment of seven new ones; a christian hospital and nurses' training school; equipment of the Bible training school for men and the establishing of one for women; occupation of five cities (populations from 60,000 to 150,000), where there is practically no missionary equipment at present, with stations consisting of a church, high school, social center and outstations; occupation of the ten capitals of provinces (populations ranging from 10,000 to 60,000) with a church, community center, night-school and outstations for surrounding country districts; building twenty-seven new churches and enlarging twenty more, all to include rooms for community service; providing sixty-two new foreign and 113 native workers.

Uruguay

The center of Protestant propaganda and the headquarters of the Young Men's Christian Association in Latin America.

URUGUAY is the smallest but most progressive of all Latin-American countries. Sixty per cent. of its 1,200,000 people are literate. A new Constitution, just adopted, separates Church and State and provides for much social legislation. The country is noted for being a literary center and headquarters for many international organizations. What Switzerland is to the international life in Europe, Uruguay is to South America.

During the world war, and especially after the entry of the United States into the conflict, Uruguay, under the leadership of her progressive president, Dr. Baltasar Brum, stood firmly for Pan-American solidarity and proclaimed unreservedly the justice of the allied cause.

The Committee on Cooperation has its South American headquarters there as has the South American Young Men's Christian Association. Here is to be located the International Union Theological Seminary and School of Social Sciences, where the picked graduates of other schools on the continent are to be brought for post graduate training. This will give these church workers preparation equal to that of the lawyers, physicians and other professional men.

Montevideo has the only woman's university in Latin America. It has the finest Spanish-speaking Protestant church building in the world. Many of the city's professional men, including professors on the faculty of the Uruguayan universities, are members of this congregation. The Methodist Episcopal and Southern Baptist missions, have not yet penetrated the village and rural life of the republic.

A unique feature of Protestantism in Uruguay is the existence there for more than half a century of a strong colony of Italian Waldensians, whose pioneers came in 1858. They underwent many hardships and some persecution from the Roman Catholic Church, but with the constant protection of the Uruguayan government they were re-located in a newly opened section of the country which they have developed into a prosperous colony. There are now some 6,000 Waldensians in Uruguay and many of them, sons of the pioneer colonists, have come to occupy prominent places in the professional life of the Republic. With their Latin, Protestant inheritance, they offer magnificent material for the ministry, when proper training institutions are provided.

Peru

This republic has just granted religious liberty to its citizens but possesses no Protestant churches.

A LAND of romance and legend, with a population of about 4,000,000, nearly half Quechua Indians, Peru is a territory of 722,461 square miles, nearly three times as large as Texas and more than twice as large as California, Oregon and Washington combined.

With a school population of 900,000, there are 147,000 in the public schools, which have an annual budget of about one million dollars,—twice as much as the city of Detroit spends on its night schools and municipal playgrounds in a year. The entire enrolment of pupils above the fifth grade is 6,790.

The Methodist Episcopal Church is the only American missionary agency working in Peru. Counting the two British missions, there are only thirty-one foreign workers and eight Peruvian ministers. There is only one ordained Protestant minister, counting both foreign and native, for every 250,000 people. No Protestant church has been built in the country, but now that the law allows it churches should be built rapidly.

Adequate staffing of Peru must take into account the geographical divisions, with the resultant isolation of districts from central supervision, and the impossibility of covering a large area from a given center enclosed by deserts or mountains; also the racial distinctions must be faced, because half the people can be properly reached only by Indian dialects. The Indians who know no Spanish are a great asset of the evangelical movement, as they have not imbibed the Celto-Iberian vices. But although the language all along the Sierra is one and the same, the differences of dialect between Puno, Cuzco, Junin and Cajamarca are not inconsiderable.

There are ten cities which ought to be occupied by men who are capable of organizing churches and superintending work over a considerable region. These men should not be tied down to local work in their respective centers in such a way as to impede their free movement over their district. These cities are: Lica, Trujillo, Arequipa, Cuzco, Cajamarca, Huaraz, Cerro de Pasco, Ayacucho, Puna and Iquitos.

There are about 20 other towns in which a foreign worker should be placed for preaching and pastoral work, and also to open new centers preparatory to placing national pastors. A small number of men of ample and thorough preparation is required in addition, and even more urgently, to undertake the training of the men.

Ecuador

This is the land of the equator. It constitutes a challenge to some mission board to win a whole nation for Christ. There is practically no competition.

ECUADOR, with an area of 116,000 square miles and an estimated population of 1,500,000, is one of the most backward countries on earth. Recent sanitation of the port of Guayaquil, however, and the investment of foreign capital denote a new era.

As in other Andean republics, intercommunication in Ecuador is difficult on account of the well-nigh impassable mountain barriers. The land is divided into three distinct areas, the fertile low-lying coastal plain which in Ecuador is chiefly devoted to the raising of cacao; the mountainous region with its many fertile plateaux, producing the fruits and grains of the temperate zone as well as various minerals of which gold is the only one that has been developed to any extent; and the eastern, tropical lowlands on the headwaters of the Amazon, where rubber and ivory nuts are the chief products. Ecuador is also the chief center for the manufacture of Panama hats, so called because they were originally marketed principally on the Isthmus.

Ecuador was long the country that, more than any other South American republic, was intolerant of any but the Roman Catholic faith. Missionaries were excluded while colporteurs of the Bible Society were beaten by mobs and imprisoned. Bibles were collected and publicly burned in the plaza of the capital. This fanaticism produced a reaction, and in 1904, under the leadership of President Alfaro, religious reforms were instituted. Church and State were separated. The Methodist Episcopal Church was invited to send missionaries and teachers to assist in organizing the public school system, which was done. So infuriated were the priests that, in a sudden uprising instigated by them, the president was taken by surprise and brutally murdered, his mutilated body being dragged through the streets at the end of a rope tied to a horse. Missionaries were forced to leave. Teachers were brought in from Germany who became directors of the schools.

In the whole country there are only 12 schools giving work above the sixth grade. The annual educational budget in 1915 was about $600,000. Nebraska, with a smaller population, spent $10,000,000 for public education the same year.

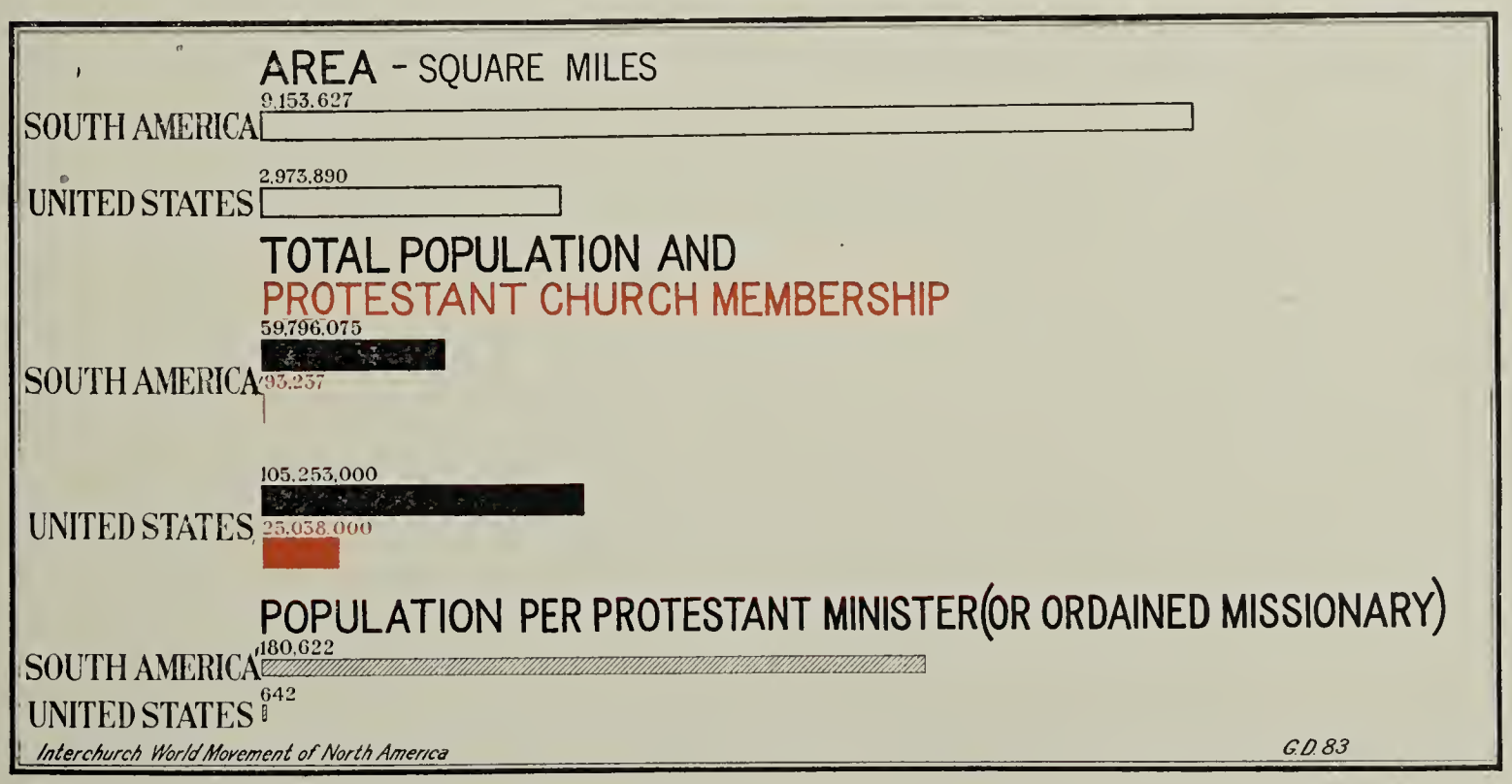
The lack of religion is everywhere seen in Ecuador. Commercial and professional ethics are conspicuous by their absence. Married men of means in Guayaquil support two families, as is freely admitted on all sides. The peons in the country dis-

tricts, by means of debt, are kept in practical slavery from generation to generation. Many of the Indians of the mountain fastnesses as well as in the eastern jungles are still absolutely savage.

Guayaquil, the metropolis and chief port of entry, was long notorious as the perennial home of yellow fever. The city has just been cleaned up under the direction of General Gorgas and this sign of progress is typical of other changes especially commercial that are coming rapidly in the life of Ecuador. Quito, the capital, lying in its high mountain valley almost on the equator, enjoys a climate of perpetual springtime and is one of the world's most picturesque capital cities.

The only foreign mission agency doing any work in Ecuador is the Christian Alliance, but it has so far been unable to establish organized churches or schools. An independent missionary who has lived for a number of years in Guayaquil has a band of some fifteen native Protestants who meet for worship in his home. Ecuador offers a mighty challenge to some mission board to take a whole nation for Christ.

The following is a program for the next five years to establish Christian work on a good basis: Centers in Quito and Guayaquil, cities of 100,000 each, with a church, schools, hospital and social center; schools and churches in cities of from 5,000 to 50,000 population; evangelistic centers in towns of less than 5,000 each, but located in densely populated areas; the necessary evangelistic, medical and educational workers.



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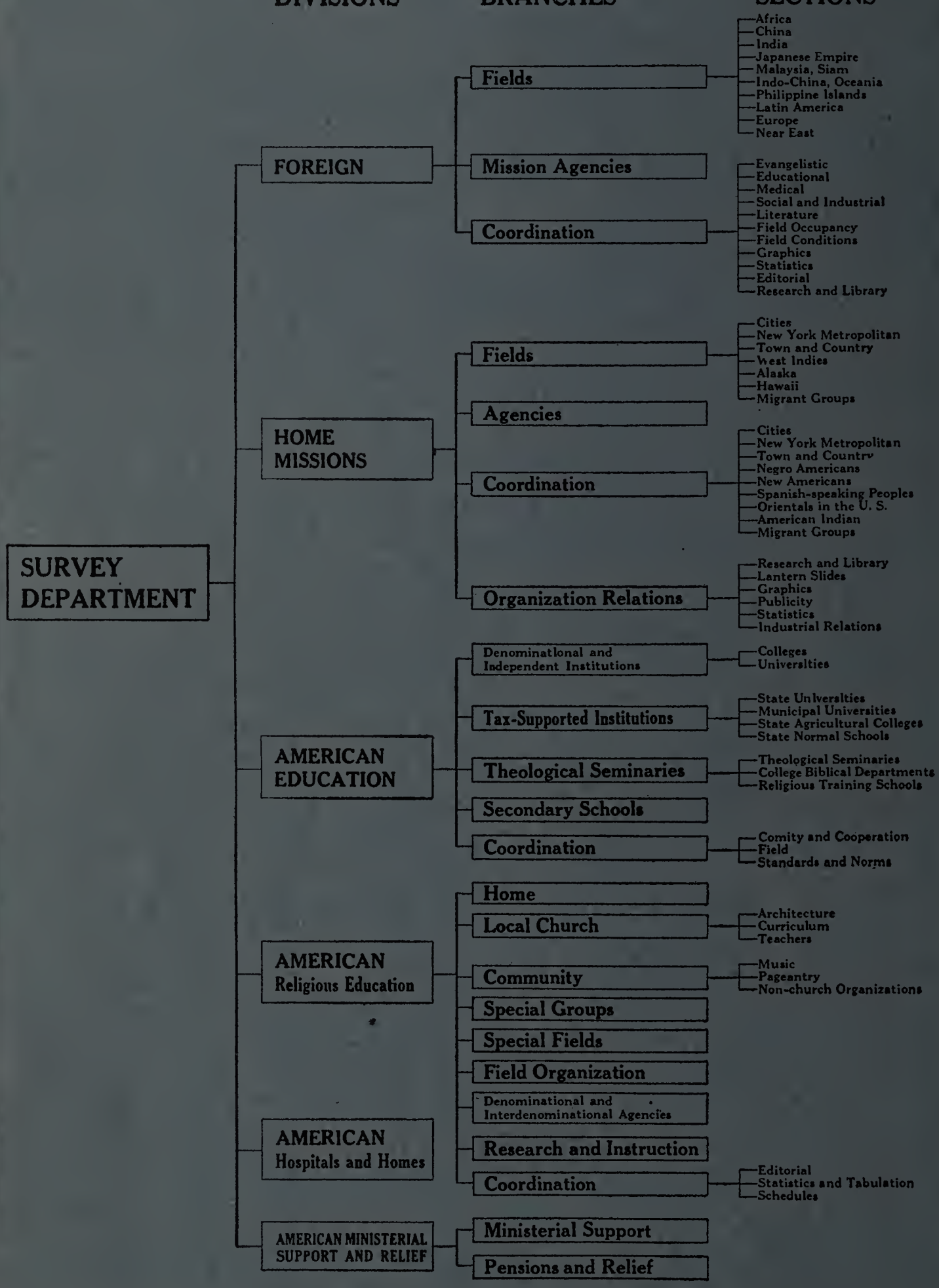
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